

Tsai et al. because Yamada et al. teach calcium carbonate as a species of inorganic filler."

The above rejections and objections are respectively traversed, and favorable reconsideration is solicited in view of the following amendments and remarks.

II. THE AMENDMENTS

A. TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Please re-title the invention as follows:

a' "ARTICLES FORMED FROM BIODEGRADABLE ALIPHATIC POLYESTER RESINS HAVING DISPERSED POLYLACTIC ACID"

B. IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claim 1, as follows (in which paragraphing has also been added):

sdv
B1
A2
1. (Amended) A formed article made of a biodegradable resin material comprising:
a continuous phase comprising (a) an inorganic filler and (b) [of] at least one aliphatic polyester selected from the group consisting of polybutylene succinate and polyethylene adipate; and
a disperse phase of polylactic acid, which is essentially free of said inorganic filler;
wherein said aliphatic polyester component accounts for a proportion of not less than 50% by weight of the material, and said polylactic acid are dispersed in the form of particles in said inorganic filler containing aliphatic polyester continuous phase.

Please rewrite claim 2 as follows:

2. (Amended) The formed article according to claim 1, wherein said aliphatic polyester component accounts for a proportion in the range of 55 to [90%] 95% by weight of the material.

Please cancel claim 3 without prejudice.

Please rewrite claim 4 as follows:

a3 4. (Amended) The formed article according to claim [3] 1, wherein said inorganic filler is at least one member selected from the group consisting of talc, calcium carbonate, clay, kaolin, carbon, mica, silica, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, magnesium carbonate, magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, and barium sulfate.

Please rewrite claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) The formed article according claim [3] 1, wherein said inorganic filler contained in said continuous phase is talc.

a4 SUB 7. (Amended) The formed article according to claim [3] 1, wherein said inorganic filler contained in said continuous phase is calcium carbonate.

8. (Amended) The formed article according to claim [3] 1, wherein said inorganic filler is present in said continuous phase in an amount of [5] 50 to 100 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of said aliphatic polyester.

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice.

Please add claim 12, as follows:

SUB C 12. A formed article made of a biodegradable resin material comprising:
a continuous phase of at least one aliphatic polyester selected from the group consisting of polybutylene succinate and polyethylene adipate; and
a disperse phase of polylactic acid,
wherein said aliphatic polyester component accounts for a proportion of not less than 50% by weight of the material and said polylactic acid are dispersed in the form of particles in said aliphatic polyester wherein the diameter of the particles of said polylactic acid is not more than about 9µm.--